

# Millennium Challenge Corporation

Reducing Poverty Through Growth

## **Request for Education Consulting Services: Secondary Education, Vocational Education and Project-Related Training**

Financial and Private Sector Development (FPSD)  
Department of Operations

The Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) is a U.S. Government corporation whose mission is to provide assistance that will support economic growth and poverty reduction in carefully selected countries that demonstrate a commitment to just and democratic governance, economic freedom, and investments in their citizenry. MCC provides grants to low-income nations that have satisfied the eligibility criteria for participation in the program and have entered into an agreement (a “Compact”) with the MCC regarding specific programs and activities to be implemented over a five year period. Eligible countries develop and submit proposals to MCC for its consideration.

To carry out its operational mandate, MCC seeks the services of experienced consultants (“Designated Consultants”) to assist it in conducting due diligence of such projects or activities and/or assisting client countries in further developing or refining projects proposed for assistance. Specifically, the MCC requires consulting services to improve the quality of vocational education systems, secondary education systems, and teacher training facilities, among other projects. The actual number of consultants engaged will be dependent on the ability of applicants to take on one or more of the specialized tasks described below. Individual statements of work will be negotiated prior to engagement.

Work would include the following activities:

- Assist the MCC to evaluate proposed projects in terms of technical, financial, economic and institutional feasibility and sustainability.
- Review and analyze information related to the project and assess possible alternative approaches to achieving the proposal objectives related to education and/or training.
- Draw upon previous government and/or donor-community experiences related to the education/training project to determine whether ‘best practices’ are being followed.
- Review and assess institutional arrangements and procedures proposed for management and administration of proposed projects.
- Review and analyze specific funding and disbursement conditions and provide recommendations to MCC on their appropriateness.
- Examine social issues related to the proposed project . Of particular concern are gender equity and the well-being and participation of ethnic minorities.
- Prepare related program design assessments and implementation documents and budgets.
- Coordinate with MCC and other donors and in-country counterparts to assure appropriate role assignment and policy, program coordination.
- Collaborate closely with in-country counterparts to assist them in preparing and implementing their own projects to ensure country ownership of their proposal.

- Participate in implementation and oversight of projects as needed.

Ideal candidates will have appropriate educational qualifications; professional experience on related issues in developing and/or transitional countries; ability to be collaborative in a team environment; and excellent oral and written communications skills. Best qualified applicants will have a minimum of 10 years experience in the following areas:

Required qualifications of the **vocational education expert** would include:

1. Bachelor's degree or higher.
2. Significant experience in developing countries in the design, implementation and appraisal of vocational-technical education programs (at least 7 years), with experience in addressing complex issues such as school to work transition, labor exchange and career guidance systems, public-private partnerships, occupational standards and certification, quality assurance and accreditation.

Required qualifications of the **secondary education expert** would include:

1. Advanced degree in education or related field.
2. Significant experience in developing countries developing, implementing and appraising secondary education programs (at least 7 years).

Required qualifications of the **training expert** would include several of the following:

1. Master's degree in education or related field.
2. Significant experience in developing countries developing, implementing and appraising training programs (at least 5 years).

General requirements for all candidates:

- Demonstrated ability to translate analytical/technical skills into innovative results.
- Experience working collaboratively as a team member with in-country counterparts and development partners.
- Ability to brief high-level U.S and foreign government officials on critical technical matters.
- Excellent writing skills and an ability to respond to requests promptly.

Travel to foreign countries will be required. Language skills: French and/or Spanish and/or Portuguese are required. Consultants with technical and language expertise in more than one of the advertised areas are preferred but not required. Designated Consultants may be requested to mobilize on short notice and will be expected to deliver high-quality finished products in a timely manner.

This announcement is not restricted to U.S. citizens. Individual assignments could range from a few days to 3 months in duration. Compensation will be based on experience. The

MCC will select multiple sources to provide these services. There will be no commitment to a minimum amount of work after the award of the contract.

Interested parties should submit by e-mail to [recruitment@mcc.gov](mailto:recruitment@mcc.gov) the following package: a resume (5 page limit) and brief cover letter 1) describing areas of expertise, 2) indicating specific sector(s) of expertise, 3) containing three professional references, and 4) containing proposed consultancy rates on a daily basis, including salary history during the past 3 years. Please include “Education/Training Policy Consultants” in the subject line of your e-mail and indicate the publication wherein you saw the advertisement. Candidates must be registered with the Central Contractor Registration at [www.ccr.gov](http://www.ccr.gov) prior to the award of a contract. This announcement is open through November 30, 2007, although selections may be made in advance of that date.